



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

November 3, 2017

Smart Cities Council

Re: Smart Cities Council Challenge Grant

Dear Grant Committee:

I am writing to support the Town of Cary's application for a Smart Cities Council Challenge Grant which is being awarded as part of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy smart cities commitment announced on September 26, 2016.

The Town of Cary implemented an innovative advanced wireless water meter program in 2012 known as Aquastar to provide hourly water consumption for billing and customer service. It has transformed our water and sewer utility through efficient meter reading for billing but more importantly by creating the opportunity to provide proactive customer service rather than reactive service. Through a customer portal into the data and user subscribed text and email alerts, we help our customers understand their use on an hourly, daily and weekly basis so that they can better analyze their own use, detect leaks and make choices to use water wisely.

As the Project Champion for Aquastar and Cary's Chief Financial Officer, I support Cary's application because the organization is deeply committed to sustainable and efficient improvements in telecommunications, transportation and utilities. These projects provide the framework for economic development and educational opportunities ultimately improving our citizens' quality of life.

I urge you to approve Cary's application for the Smart City Council Readiness Grant.

Sincerely,

Karen Mills, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

TOWN of CARY